

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An article for delivering a drug and a nucleic acid, the article comprising:

a nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a backbone comprising a polyester;

a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle; and

a drug associated with an interior of the micelle.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is capable of passing through a cell membrane.

4. (Currently amended) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nucleic acid is DNA.

5. (Currently amended) An article as in claim 1 wherein the drug is a cancer drug.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is stable at a concentration of greater than 5 mg/L.

9. (Original) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle is capable of crossing the blood/brain barrier.

10. (Original) A composition comprising an article of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 1 wherein the nanoparticle comprises a graft copolymer having a backbone including comprises tertiary amines, at least a portion of the tertiary amines quaternized and bound to a hydrophobic side chain.

12. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 1115 wherein the hydrophobic side chain comprises cholesterol.

13. (Original) An article as in claim 11 wherein the polymeric backbone comprises a copolymer of quaternized and non-quaternized tertiary ammonium groups.

14. (Currently amended) An article as in claim 131 wherein the polymeric backbone further comprises an ester-ether linkage.

15. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 1311 wherein the polymeric backbone comprises a polyester wherein at least a portion of the tertiary amines are quaternized and bound to a hydrophobic side chain.

16. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 131 wherein the polymeric backbone further comprises a polyether.

17-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) A kit comprising:
a container including an amphoteric polymeric nanoparticle forming a micelle, wherein the polymeric nanoparticle comprises a polymer having a backbone comprising a polyester;
a nucleic acid associated with an exterior of the micelle;
a drug associated with an interior of the micelle; and
instructions for administering the nanoparticle to a subject.

45-48. (Cancelled)

49. (Currently Amended) An article A kit as in claim 144, wherein the nanoparticle polymer comprises a polymeric compound graft co-polymer.

50. (Currently Amended) An article as in claim 491, wherein the polymer comprises polymeric compound is an amphiphilic co-polymer.

51. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 50, wherein the amphiphilic co-polymer is a cationic amphiphilic co-polymer.

52. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 1 wherein the drug is not covalently or ionically bound to the nanoparticle.

53. (Previously Presented) An article as in claim 1 wherein the drug is physically contained by the nanoparticle.

54. (New) An article as in claim 1, wherein the polymer comprises a graft co-polymer.